

A CREATION MYTH FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

by Charles T. Butler, PhD

Charles Butler is a physicist who spent over a quarter century in a major conservative Christian denomination as a lay theologian before leaving it in 1975 and setting out on a path that took him through atheism, agnosticism, back to theism, and eventually brought him to Taoism and the Unitarian Universalist Church. After helping to put up the first U.S. satellites, he performed fundamental physics research for a decade before becoming a university professor. There he continued his research and taught courses on the environment and on the effects of technology on society. His marriage to Mary, an anthropologist, heightened this interest. After leaving university life in 1984, he spent the remainder of his scientific career applying neural networks, a type of computer that mimics the animal brain. His association with The Monroe Institute began in 2002. He is a member of the Dolphin Energy Club. In 2003 he was diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) and credits the Hemi-Sync® technology for enabling him to maintain a positive attitude as his disease has progressed.

The first thing I found when I started through the *GATEWAY EXPERIENCE*® CDs in the summer of 2002 was that the Hemi-Sync technology allowed me to reach a deep meditative state faster and more reliably than I had been able to do in over thirty years of meditating. Even better, I became more emotionally stable, happier, and more peaceful than I had ever been. I didn't know what these CDs were doing, but I liked it. About this time, I began a series of medical tests to discover the cause of constant tiny muscle jerks in my arms and torso. I assumed they were just a symptom of one of the bothersome, but benign, autoimmune conditions common in my family.

In January 2003, my prescribing psychiatrist suggested that I drop my depression medication. He said he didn't understand it, but I didn't need it anymore. In February, I permanently stopped using the bright-light therapy I had used for fifteen years from October through April to combat the depression of seasonal affective disorder (SAD). Things were looking good.

On the second of May, 2003, my world forever changed. A series of tests at George Washington University finally verified the unthinkable. The muscle jerks I had experienced for almost two years were the vanguard of more serious problems, those due to ALS, Lou Gehrig's disease. I continued using the Hemi-Sync CDs. Over a period of two or three weeks, the fear, anger, self-pity, and depression I felt at first was replaced by renewed spiritual balance, an ability to contemplate my situation without fear or self-pity, and a determination to "go out with grace."

Was this due to the CDs? I think so, and here's the reason: my psychiatrist is remarkably flexible and had followed my use of these CDs from the beginning. In the summer of 2003, however, he suggested that I stop using the CDs for a while and experiment with a new technique called neuro-feedback. Because my professional field is artificial neural networks, I was intrigued by the possibility of training my own brain in the same way I had trained many artificial networks and followed his protocol with enthusiasm. For four months I used neuro-

feedback instead of the Hemi-Sync CDs. During that time I became increasingly fearful, short-tempered, and depressed. Neurofeedback, wonderfully successful with many, was not working for me. At the psychiatrist's suggestion, I switched back to the CDs in early fall. The change was almost immediate. Within a week I regained the peace and grace that I had lost in the face of my illness. A laboratory *PREP* session at TMI and an *OUTREACH* session conducted by Maureen Caudill in our home in early 2004 heightened these feelings.

Eighteen months after being diagnosed with ALS, despite a series of devastating falls, loss of most of the use of my hands and arms, and recently moving into a wheelchair, I still am able to maintain a positive attitude, contemplate my situation without fear or self-pity, and keep my determination to go out with grace. As my disease has progressed, I have discovered that I must set aside time to mourn my losses, but I have also learned to embrace ALS as my teacher, as the means by which I will learn life's last, greatest lessons.

What is the connection of all this with the story that follows, a myth that purports to tie the recently discovered dark energy with ancient chi? It's this: the Hemi-Sync CDs bring one efficiently and quickly to levels of spirituality that will be needed if the changes described in this story are to take place. I believe in the truth behind the myth. I believe in the TMI process. I believe the world can be a better place and that Hemi-Sync technology can play an important part in the momentous changes that may be imminent.

The Myth

Once, long ago, two eleven-dimensional beings fell into high-dimensional love and had a high-dimensional child. Some later called the birth event The Big Bang. Because of the genetics of such beings or for other reasons, the baby had only four dimensions that were important to the everyday lives of the material creatures that later evolved within it, but the full eleven dimensions were still there.

The baby had three kinds of energy available to it. One coalesced into ordinary matter—protons, neutrons, electrons, photons, and the other stuff we're made of. This part made up about 5 percent of the mass of the baby. Another form of matter also coalesced. Scientists in the twentieth century named it "dark matter" because it didn't glow like ordinary matter, and they didn't have a clue otherwise of what it was. Still, it possessed mass and allowed the trillions of galaxies to form as the baby grew older. This form of energy made up another 25 percent or so of the baby's mass.

By far the largest fraction of the baby's mass was in the form of a pure energy. This pure energy had contact with the other dimensions of the baby in ways that ordinary and dark matter did not. Its discoverers decided that it was an intrinsic part of space-time. This meant that, unlike matter, it was there from the instant the universe was born and pervades every material object in the universe. Not being matter in the usual sense, this strange energy, which these scientists named "dark energy," wasn't subject to the backward pull of gravity the way the other parts of the baby were but in fact caused it to grow ever faster.

This dark energy had another effect. Creatures made mostly of ordinary matter who evolved on at least one of the trillions and trillions of planets that existed within the baby—though at

first ignorant of the origin of their observation— began to realize that something responded to their intention, to their will. Thousands of years before this energy was verified by direct measurement, Chinese sages and warriors learned to control it by willing it to move through and out of their bodies. This made them very powerful. They called this energy chi. They realized that it pervaded all space and was formed at the very creation of the universe. They named three kinds of chi for convenience, though all were identical: universal or heavenly chi they said came from the heavens; Earth chi they said belonged to Earth; and personal chi they said belonged to each human, animal, plant, and rock on the planet. They discovered that this energy had healing powers and that an imbalance of it could make one ill. They developed exercises and procedures that could circulate and balance the chi in the body and that could call heavenly or earth chi into the body or send it out of the body. These exercises were used to prepare warriors for warfare and heal warriors who were injured. They also prepared sages for thought and peasants for their daily tasks.

At the same time, people far from China were developing their own understanding of how the universe works. Each society seemed to have a different explanation, but all had similar observations. Some discovered that they could heal and perform other feats through what they termed prayer. Others found that they could go into deep trances and experience beings from other dimensions. Some could even experience these beings at times without being in a trance. They called these beings spirits, angels, devils, and so on, depending on the circumstances and the being in question. Some persons in some societies found that they could leave their bodies and travel to other places, then return and say helpful things to those left behind. The variations were as many as there were groups of practitioners. Some variations became part of major lines of human social development, while others were relegated to obscurity outside their small area of influence. Wars were fought and whole civilizations destroyed over whose ideas were correct.

Eventually individuals around the planet began to suspect that nobody's ideas were The Truth. They further suspected that prayer, healing by the laying on of hands, acupuncture, tai chi (the warrior's preparation exercise), Reiki, shamanism, meditation of all sorts, seeing the accomplished task in advance, and a host of other acts of will were all doing the same thing: moving chi/dark energy with the intentional mind. Some called this mindfulness or intentional living. They decided that the prayer of a Buddhist, Hindu, Taoist, Christian, or Muslim or the acts of a shaman or a curandero were just moving the same chi/dark energy with a different understanding of the process.

This insight upset many Buddhists, Hindus, Taoists, Christians, Muslims, shamans, and curanderos, but it made sense to yet others. They decided that a good fraction of the healing success of a Western physician was from the same source. This insight upset many Western physicians practicing under the medical model, but it also made sense to many others.

Many of the theologically and philosophically attuned began to have a grand thought: if this all-pervasive chi/dark energy responded to the will of humans and, perhaps, the will of all creatures, then either it had to be intelligent itself or something that owned it had to be attuned to the will in order to move the chi/dark energy. Many of the latter group believed that the universe—the baby—deserved to be thought of as God. Others thought that term should be

reserved for the ancient eleven-dimensional beings that created the baby, or perhaps that the term should be reserved for whatever made the eleven-dimensional beings, and so on, ad infinitum. Some atheists got mad because they reserved such things as Not God. Academic and theological arguments about who or what was supposed to be called God (or Not God) were rife.

A lot of people considered the arguments unimportant. More fascinating to them was the idea that the means used to move chi/dark energy matters relatively little. Prayer, Reiki, burning candles, meditative states, tai chi, qigong, Western medical practices, etc., could all work for good. Many theologians, philosophers, poets, and even politicians and scientists banded together and pondered the relationship of this concept to love. They started a movement to use this great power, this ability to interact with the universe, to change the world.

And they did. And it did.

Beyond the myth: If chi and dark energy are really identical—and I think there is a good possibility that they are—we are at a point at which the philosophical rift that has existed between mythos and logos since the Enlightenment can finally be healed. We could finally get on with it. What might life be if rationalism and mysticism coalesced? The people of Earth—all the people of Earth—could find an entirely new way of existence. The rejoined mythos and logos would include ever-expanding science and technology, but a science and technology informed by the wisdom of mythos, perhaps even a mythos of love.

While teaching environmental physics in the mid-seventies, I noted to my students that seven major issues appeared to be taking us inexorably toward a cusp—a critical point—and that this cusp would occur sometime in the first third of the twenty-first century. The issues were the usual ones: population, food production, air pollution, water pollution, atmospheric heating, and the like. One writer at the time set doomsday as Friday, March 13, 2026.

My belief in the seventies was based on environmental and demographic data and driven by reasoning originating from a certain level of innate pessimism. My pessimism has abated considerably, but little has happened to convince me that we are not still screaming toward a cusp in human history. This critical point will offer at least two possibilities: moving into another dark age characterized by ecological disaster, world chaos, human misery, alienation, big business in charge, and evil acts perpetrated in the name of God, or moving into an era in which love and understanding begin to really take hold. My perhaps naive faith is that this latter process will occur eventually in any event, though it may take another thousand years or fifty thousand years to begin to see global results.

But maybe, just maybe, a change will begin in our children's lifetime. I say this because something is different now, something that hardly existed in 1975. Western rationalism has begun to develop a modest tolerance of mysticism. Medical practitioners, for instance, are discovering that what they call complementary methods actually work and are a valuable adjunct—or alternative—to traditional Western medicine. In my own discipline, physical scientists are increasingly confronted with observations that are not easily explained within the old paradigms and thus are becoming ever-so-slightly more open to mystical answers.

Whichever of several directions the global society flips at the chaotic cusp, I probably won't be here to see it. If my nascent optimism is vindicated, though, I may yet have a chance. Maybe if enough of us begin to envision in our minds that the balance has already tipped toward love ...

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